

What is claimed is:

1           1.       A drying apparatus having a front support mounting assembly, the assembly  
2 comprising:  
3           a cabinet;  
4           a rotatable drum, horizontally installed within said cabinet as a drying chamber for  
5 holding an object to be dried, said rotatable drum having an open end;  
6           a front support for rotatably supporting the open end of said rotatable drum; and  
7           means for fixing said front support directly to said cabinet.

1           2.       The drying apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein said cabinet comprises a  
2 mounting flange for receiving said fixing means.

1           3.       The drying apparatus as claimed in claim 2, said fixing means comprising:  
2           a cabinet-fixing flange, formed at a first end, for providing a first mounting surface  
3 for coupling with said mounting flange; and  
4           a front support-fixing flange, formed at a second end, for providing a second  
5 mounting surface for coupling with said front support.

1           4.       The drying apparatus as claimed in claim 3, said fixing means further  
2 comprising an extension link, extending from said cabinet-fixing flange to said front support-  
3 fixing flange, for compensating for a mounting offset between the first and second mounting  
4 surfaces.

1           5.       The drying apparatus as claimed in claim 4, wherein said cabinet-fixing  
2 flange and said front support-fixing flange are respectively connected to said extension link to  
3 form predetermined angles.

1           6.       The drying apparatus as claimed in claim 5, wherein the predetermined  
2 angles are complimentary right angles providing a substantially parallel coupling of said front  
3 support with respect to said mounting flange.

1           7.       The drying apparatus as claimed in claim 4, wherein at least one reinforcing  
2 bead is formed on said extension link of said fixing means, for supporting said front support  
3 and reinforcing the coupling of said front support to said mounting flange of said cabinet.

1           8.       The drying apparatus as claimed in claim 4, wherein a plurality of reinforcing  
2 beads are formed on said extension link of said fixing means, to be arranged in rows, for  
3 supporting said front support and reinforcing the coupling of said front support to said  
4 mounting flange of said cabinet.

1           9.       The drying apparatus as claimed in claim 3, said cabinet-fixing flange  
2 comprising a pair of hanging protrusions formed on a rear surface, wherein said mounting  
3 flange of said cabinet has a pair of hanging holes for respectively receiving said hanging  
4 protrusions.

1           10.      The drying apparatus as claimed in claim 9, wherein said pair of hanging  
2 protrusions each have a T-shaped configuration and wherein each of the hanging holes of said

3 mounting flange is formed to have a wide top end and a narrow bottom end, so that the T-  
4 shaped hanging protrusions can be respectively inserted in the top ends to be caught in the  
5 bottom ends.

1 11. The drying apparatus as claimed in claim 3, said fixing means further  
2 comprising at least one fixing member for fixing said cabinet-fixing flange of said fixing  
3 means to said mounting flange of said cabinet via at least one set of fixing holes respectively  
4 formed in said cabinet-fixing flange and said mounting flange.

1 12. The drying apparatus as claimed in claim 11, wherein at least one spare set of  
2 fixing holes are respectively formed in said cabinet-fixing flange and said mounting flange,  
3 adjacent the one set of fixing holes, for alternatively receiving the at least one fixing member.

1 13. The drying apparatus as claimed in claim 3, said front support-fixing flange  
2 comprising a plurality of welding protrusions for being welded to said front support.

1 14. The drying apparatus as claimed in claim 3, wherein said front support-fixing  
2 flange and said front support are each provided with at least two jig holes for respectively  
3 receiving at least two jig pins to establish a fixing position of said front supporter with respect  
4 to the fixing means.

1 15. The drying apparatus as claimed in claim 14, said front support-fixing flange  
2 comprising a plurality of welding protrusions for being welded to said front support.

1           16.     The drying apparatus as claimed in claim 2, wherein said fixing means is  
2     provided at a plurality of mounting positions on said mounting flange of said cabinet.

1           17.     The drying apparatus as claimed in claim 2, wherein the plurality of  
2     mounting positions are symmetrically arranged.

1           18.     The drying apparatus as claimed in claim 16, wherein said front support is  
2     provided with four corner flanges.

1           19.     The drying apparatus as claimed in claim 18, wherein the plurality of  
2     mounting positions correspond to the four corner flanges of said front support.